



Project Number: 557089 EPP1-2014-IT-SPO-SC

Dundee and Angus College

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Type of organisation:							
SME	<input type="checkbox"/>	School	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	University	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>
Training	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Profit	<input type="checkbox"/>	NGO	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other (Specify):	<input type="text" value="College (tertiary education)"/>						



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Fields of action:

- SMEs Youth Universities Public Authorities
 Equal opportunities Schools Unemployed

Other (Specify):

Vocational training/education towards employment and higher education opportunities

Description of the organisation

Dundee and Angus College (D&A) was formed in 2013 from the merger of 2 previously successful Scottish further education colleges (Dundee College and Angus College) as part of a Scottish Government reform and re-organisation programme. It provides further education services mainly focusing on the population centres of Dundee and Arbroath & stretching into surrounding areas (Fife, Perthshire, Aberdeenshire). The latest population figure for the region is 262,890, rising to 500,000 counting the "travel to work" area. It offers education & training in many vocational areas from SCQF levels 2 to 10 (EQF levels 1 to 6).

D&A employs approximately 1,000 staff and serves 16,669 learners. Most provision is through full-time VET courses for learners aged 16 & upwards in a wide range of subjects including Sport and Leisure. A significant part of our work is part-time courses, industry qualifications, & tailor made courses to suit client's needs. Core funding comes from Scottish Government.

The Senior Leadership Team is responsible to Scottish Government for delivering a Regional Outcome Agreement whereby we are committed to the delivery of 5 outcomes:

1. An efficient regional structure
2. The right learning in the right place
3. High quality & efficient learning
4. A developed workforce for the region
5. The creation of a sustainable institution.

D&A operates over 3 main campuses (Kingsway, Gardyne & Arbroath) supported by outreach centres in the city of Dundee, and throughout rural Angus. Facilities include a custom built sports facility (The Saltire Centre) and the recently developed Angus Centre for Enterprise which has been fully supported by various industry sectors, local authority & individual employers.

Parts of the campus comply with BS/EN/ISO9001 2008. Following the recent merger, this is being reviewed with a view to applying it to all College locations. The College also complies with quality assurance requirements of, and is subject to audit and inspection from: SGS, HMLe, Scottish Government, Scottish Qualifications Authority, City and Guilds, and other external examination boards.

The College develops, with other partners (e.g. universities, third sector, local government, public sector service providers) local solutions to satisfy the local needs of employers, industry bodies, schools, & communities. It also works very closely with local, national & international partners to provide the population with the skills & services required to grow the local economy in all key sectors. The Sports team plays an active role in a range of these partnerships, giving them a good position from which to share project outcomes.



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D&A College has a range of mechanisms for engaging actively with sports and recreation service providers to establish demand and to ensure the validity of programmes on offer through; direct engagement with individual employers; Sector Skills Council; industry liaison and support groups; partnerships with commercial bodies; working with Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Enterprise and other partners.

All Sports teaching staff hold teaching qualifications or are currently working towards them. All staff have access to programmes of continuing professional development organised by the Organisational Development (OD) team. A group of learning and teaching mentors (within the OD team) are responsible for implementing relevant training to meet the needs of teaching staff. Training is delivered through a Leading Learning Academy, Learner Engagement Cafes and a Learning and Teaching Forum.

Experience of the organization in previous European projects

In just the last three years alone, Dundee and Angus College have participated in over 10 successful European projects covering numerous programmes including Leonardo, Grundtvig and Interreg. Currently we are working on a number of European projects at various stages of completion (including as Lead Partner) with a number of European partners in various regions.

Experience and Expertise of the organization in the project's subject area

There are around 600 students studying Sport at Dundee and Angus College. Courses cover a wide range of levels from EQF 1 to 6. Starting with School Link provision where we offer training to young people still at school to experience vocational courses for a few hours per week. At the highest level we offer programmes equivalent to 2nd Year Degree courses and our students then have direct articulation onto 3rd year Degree programs at several Universities.

The department has 20+ staff across the two campuses (Gardyne and Arbroath) who deliver high quality learning and teaching. The department has excellent facilities which supports the development of our students experiences/competencies in all areas of the courses.

This learning environment has further developed our partnerships with outside agencies and schools in the development of student sport and physical activities. There has been an increase in student participation, knowledge and understanding, further resulting in the development of our students health and wellbeing, confidence, employability and citizenship.

Staff have excellent subject knowledge and have a flexible and blended approach to course/unit delivery and have a good team work ethos – 'Through enhanced partnerships and a shared vision of excellence, we will provide every learner with the opportunities to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes for learning, life and work.'

Dundee and Angus College has recently appointed a Sports and Wellbeing Co-ordinator to further develop our the new 'Sports Union' which will provide enhanced opportunities for all of the 20,000 students at the College to further participate in Sport and Physical Activities.

D&A has considerable transnational experience leading & participating in LLP projects. It is committed to further development of EU activities under its modernisation & internationalisation strategies to add value to staff & learners' experiences & support Dundee & Angus communities.



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Contributions that can be provided to the project

As previously mentioned, D&A has a large network of contacts within local schools already and will utilise this existing network to provide the basis for school involvement in the project. Allied to the vast experience of the teaching staff within the Sports department across all education sectors, D&A have both the networks and teaching staff to provide highly successful outputs to this project.

Finally, D&A will bring its transnational European project expertise to the project having been involved in numerous successful projects over recent years.

Contact Person's Experience and Expertise

With over 20 years of teaching, lecturing and managing, Stephen McGregor is an experienced, knowledgeable and reflective practitioner (having worked primarily in Sport and Physical Activity) who continually seeks to improve the quality of learning & teaching.

Throughout his career, he has demonstrated a commitment to excellence and desire for continuous improvement. In 1992 he started a teaching degree in Physical Education where he experienced immense satisfaction in creating an environment that fostered positive attitudes towards sport. In 1997 he was appointed as a Course Leader in Sport at Milton Keynes College where he enjoyed the daily challenges of supporting and managing students, full and part-time, academic and support staff. After moving to Leeds in September 2001, he returned to Secondary School Education as a teacher of Physical Education and Sport at Tong Upper School and Sports College, teaching 11 to 18 year olds from a diverse multi-cultural and inner-city estate. This extremely challenging environment provided him with another opportunity to reflect and develop as a practitioner and further develop his understanding of using sport to promote social inclusion and equal opportunities through working with children from different cultures.

In July 2002, Stephen moved to Scotland as he was keen to take advantage of the outdoor lifestyle that Scotland had to offer and in August 2002 gained the post of Lecturer at Angus College. In 2004 - Course Leader and in 2007 - Curriculum Manager for Sports & Fitness.

When he first came to Angus College the department was working out of a small office and utilising local authority facilities. As a result of his motivation and leadership the department developed national recognition for the delivery of school link provision to 2nd year degree qualifications in its centre of excellence for sport and Fitness. The department delivered qualifications, through a variety of delivery modes, including part-time, full-time and commercial.

Stephen's team has developed into a highly dynamic, flexible and supportive team whose ethos focuses on developing students' confidence through their educational experiences and qualifications. All students have had the opportunity to develop their independence and confidence, respect for self and others and personal wellbeing through participating in Sports and Physical activities. Despite Arbroath being classified as one of Europe's most socio-economically deprived areas our success rates have been consistently well above the national benchmark.

Stephen has also had previous experience of a two year LLP Transfer of Innovation Project (IntheMC) in developing internationalisation & student mobility.



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